

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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R 300822Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2454

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 1356

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ID MY

SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT AND OTHER MATTERS

1. ON JANUARY 30, DCM CALLED ON HIS MALAYSIAN OPPOSITE TO DISCUSS RECENT VISIT TO JAKARTA BY NEW MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER. AS HAS BEEN SPECULATED AND REPORTED ON PREVIOUSLY, MAIN PURPOSE AND RESULT OF VISIT WAS TO RENEW CLOSE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN MALAYSIAN PRIME MINISTER AND PRESIDENT SUHARTO, WHICH HAD EXISTED PREVIOUSLY BETWEEN LATTER AND RAZAK. HUSSEIN BIN ONN WISHED TO REASURE SUHARTO THAT HE WAS IN FULL CONTROL OF GOM. HE ALSO INFORMED THE INDONESIAN THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE CONCERNED ABOUT LACK OF A DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER WHOM HE EXPECTS TO NAME IN MARCH WHEN HE REORGANIZES HIS CABINET. HE IS DELIBERATELY ALLOWING THIS PERIOD TO BE ONE OF MANEUVERING AND COOLING OF POLITICAL EXCITEMENT SO THAT WHEN CABINET RESHUFFLE AND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER NAMED, THESE WILL BE ACCEPTED WIITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

2. MALAYSIAN DCM ALSO DISCUSSED A VARIETY OF OTHER MATTERS

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CONCERNING MALAYSIAN AND ASEAN AFFAIRS BASED ON NOT ONLY RECENT TALKS BUT TALKS OF MALAYSIAN EMBASSY WITH ONN AND

INDONESIANS. THE DETAILS OF THESE SUBJECTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

3. APPARENTLY, THE PHILIPPINES HAVE GIVEN IN ON THE QUESTION OF AN ASEAN SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE INDONESIANS WILL FORMALLY PROPOSE LT. GEN. DHARSONO (NOW A SENIOR FOREIGN DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL FOLLOWING SERVICE AS HEAD OF INDONESIAN ICCS CONTINGENT AND AMBASSADOR TO KHMER REPUBLIC) DURING THE ASEAN MEETING. IT IS EXPECTED THAT HE WILL BE APPROVED.

4. IN LINE WITH THE CLOSE COOPERATION BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA, THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF MALAYSIA'S ARMED FORCES IS PRESENTLY IN INDONESIA STUDYING THE INDONESIAN MILITARY ORGANIZATION WHICH IS BASED ON TERRITORIAL FORCES RATHER THAN CONVENTIONAL ORGANIZATION. FROM THIS, HE HOPES TO DRAW LESSONS WHICH WILL BE ADAPTED TO THE MALYSIAN SITUATION.

5. ONE OF SUBJECTS TO BE DISCUSSED BY ASEAN SUMMIT WILL BE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE ATTITUDES OF THE GREAT POWERS TOWARDS SOUTHEAST ASIA. OF PARTICULAR INTEREST IS THE ATTITUDE AND INTENTIONS OF THE USG.

6. IN CONNECTION WITH THE LATTER, MALAYSIA HAS BECOME INCREASINGLY AWARE OF THE CONFLICTS WITHIN THE US AND WASHINGTON OVER FOREIGN POLICY. THEREFORE, FOLLOWING THE CABINET RESHUFFLE, GOM WILL PROBABLY STRENGTHEN ITS EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON. GOM HAS FOLLOWED WITH INTEREST GOI EFFORTS VIS-A-VIS THE US PUBLIC AND CONGRESS VIA SPECIAL MISSIONS, SUCH AS THE ALI MURTOPO ONE OF LAST OCTOBER.

7. AS PART OF THE MALAYSIAN RESHUFFLE, A NUMBER OF YOUNGER MEN WILL BE MOVED UP AND MANY AMBASSADORS WILL BE CHANGED.

8. GOM IS WAITING TO SEE WHAT TUN MUSTAPHA MAY ATTEMPT IN VIEW OF FORTHCOMING MAY ELECTIONS IN SABAH. HOWEVER, PRIME MINISTER BELIEVES THAT WITH CABINET REORGANIZATION AND NAMING OF DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN MARCH, HE WILL BE FULLY PREPARED TO HANDLE SABAH SITUATION BY THE TIME OF ITS ELECTIONS.

9. MALAYSIAN DCM TALKED AT SOME LENGTH OF MALAYSIA'S CON-
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TINUING CONCERN ABOUT THE SITUATION IN THAILAND, ESPECIALLY IN THE SOUTHERN PART WHERE MOSLEM UNREST IS INCREASING IN ADDITION TO STANDARD DIFFICULTIES CAUSED BY COMMUNIST SANCTUARIES THAT AREA. THIS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED BY INDONESIANS AND MALAYSIANS AND LATTER ARE CONSIDERING A DIRECT APPROACH TO THAI KING. MALAYSIANS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SITUATION IN SOUTHERN THAILAND CAN BE CORRECTED BY JOINT THAI-MALAYSIA MILITARY OPERATION, BUT HAVE THUS FAR BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN THE NECESSARY THAI EFFORT.

10. WHILE NO FORMAL MILITARY AGREEMENT OR TREATY WILL COME FROM ASEAN SUMMIT, NOR IS ONE DESIRED, MALAYSIANS BELIEVE THERE MAY BE SOME EFFORT TO INCLUDE IN RESULTS A GENERAL STATEMENT TO THE EFFECT THAT A DANGER TO ONE MEMBER WOULD BE CONSIDERED A DANGER TO ALL.

1. FINALLY, MALAYSIAN DCM RAISED QUESTION OF MALAYSIA'S GIFT TO INDONESIA OF ITS F-86'S AND ASKED IF THE USG HAD ANY OBJECTIO TO THIS. GOI BEGINNING TO PRESS GOM THIS ISSUE. HE WAS INFORMED THAT PROBLEM HAD BEEN RAISED BUT THAT EM-BASSY JAKARTA UNAWARE OF WASHINGTON RESPONSE TO KUALA LUMPUR. NEWSOM

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